

Name: _____

Deep-sea sharks

New Zealand's sharks


New Zealand has 70 known shark species, 26 skates and rays, and 12 chimaeras, or ghost sharks. New species are always being found, especially in very deep water. About 20 shark and ray species live only in New Zealand.

Sharks first appeared in the world's oceans about 400 million years ago. Fossilised teeth and backbones have been discovered in New Zealand. They give us clues about the lifestyle and size of early sharks – most of them were large.

Māori and sharks

Māori thought highly of sharks. In myth, sharks came to the aid of ocean voyagers, and when the god Māui placed a shark in the sky, it formed Māngōroa – the Milky Way galaxy.

Sharks were prized catches, and their teeth were made into earrings or necklaces.

Title 	Author	Type	RYL	Part/ Level	No. / Month	Year
The great white shark	BELCHER, Angie	Article	6	04	2	2002
Never-ending teeth	O'BRIEN, John	Article	3	02	2	1993
No sharks, please!	TELENIUS, Roger	Story	4	01	3	1993
Shark day	YOUNG, Lani	Story	5	03	2	2006
Swimming with sharks	TU'AKOI, Feana	Story	5	03	1	2002

The story I found most interesting was _____

because

Other information I have discovered about this topic is